

5 November 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the DCI for Compartmentation

STATINTL FROM:

Member APEX Steering Group

SUBJECT: Decompartmentation of Codewords

The SAFSS member spoke at the 3 November 1980 meeting of the APEX Steering Group in proposal to reconsider the APEX decision not to compartment codewords.

This memorandum speaks against that proposal.

If codewords are again compartmented conditions of abuse of classification and compartmentation will be fostered, Community efforts to comply with both the intent and spirit of Executive Order 12065 will be denigrated, the volume of compartmented materials with attendant costs of controls will be increased, a primary objective of the APEX concept to compartment only that intelligence which clearly warrants special protection will be thwarted in some measure, there will be an increased number of individuals who will require access to APEX and finally there will be considerable revision required in the APEX material developed to date.

Accordingly it is recommended that the SAFSS proposal not be further considered and that no endorsement be given to the proposal to compartment codewords.

STATINTL